(c) whether any shortfall is expected; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The total demand tor crude oil in the country is based on the refining capacity which was 69.5 MMT in 1996-97.

(b) and (c) The production of Crude Oil during the period was approximately 32.88 MMT against the MOU target of 36.312 MMT.

(d) The reasons for shortfall in production are:—

—Reduction in anticipated production from the major fields of Mumbai Regional Business Centre especially Bombay High and Neelam, due to unexpected reservoir behaviour not in conformity with earlier predictions.

—Reduced production from joint ventrue projects.

—Constraints in operating conditions on account of law and order problems and insurgency in North-Eastern region.

—Stoppage of work in Nagaland.

—Frequent power shutdown in Western and Eastern region affecting artificial life operations.

Capacity of Indian Refineries

402. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total refining capacity of Indian refineries as on 30th June, 1997;

(b) how much the domestic needs of petroleum products are being met by these refineries; and

(c) whether refining capacities are being fully utilised?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The refining capacity as on* 30.6.1997 was 61.55 MMTPA.

(b) The production of • petroleum products vis-a-vis its domestic needs for the year 1996-97 is given below:—

(Figures in MMT)

Production	*Demand*	*Short Fall*
59.24	79.16	19.92

(c) The overall refining capacity utilisation of the refineries for the year 1996-97 was 104%.

Waiting List for LPG connections in the Metropolitan Cities

403. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants waiting for LPG connection in all the Metropolitan cities as on 30th June, 1997;

(b) whether the waiting list in the towns and cities is not being cleared as it was targeted during the last three years;

(c) if so, the State wise position as on date; and

(d) the year by which every consumer would get LPG connection on demand?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The number of applicants on waiting list registered with the LPG distributors of PSU oil Companies in the four Metropolitan cities is as under:—

Metro City	*Pending WaitingList as on 30.6.97 (in Lakh)*
"Delhi	7^26
Calcutta	5.43
Mumbai	3.54
Chennai	_4/74

b) No target was set for clearing the wait list in towns and cities during the period under reference. However, all PSU oil companies achieved the target fixed for release of connections for the